II. Claims 7-10, drawn to a method for separating nucleic acid molecules, classified in class 435, subclass 91.52;

III. Claims 11-15, drawn to a method for separating nucleic acid molecules, classified in class 435, subclass 6; and

IV Claims 20 and 21, drawn to a method identifying an allele, classified in class 435, subclass 91.1.

Applicants have cancelled claims 1-21 and added new claims 22-32 obviating the need for restriction. Accordingly, applicants respectfully request the Examiner withdraw this restriction requirement. If the Examiner believes that an restriction is required for the new claims, she is requested to contact the undersigned.

Amendment of the claims is supported by the application as filed, does not add new matter, and is otherwise proper. Applicants respectfully request entry of this amendment in its entirety.

CONCLUSION

The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number listed below if the Examiner has any questions or believes such would be helpful in advancing the application to issue.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date _March 10, 2003

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